

Message Text

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15

ACTION AF-07

INFO OCT-01 EUR-08 ISO-00 SAM-01 IO-04 CIAE-00 DODE-00

PM-03 H-01 INR-05 L-01 NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01 RSC-01

PRS-01 SP-02 SS-15 USIA-06 /062 W

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R 291000Z OCT 74

FM AMCONSUL LOURENCO MARQUES

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 2994

INFO AMEMBASSY BLANTYRE

AMCONSUL CAPE TOWN

AMEMBASSY DAR ES SALAAM

AMEMBASSY LISBON

AMCONSUL LUANDA

AMEMBASSY LUSAKA

AMEMBASSY MBABANE

AMEMBASSY PRETORIA

CINCLANT FOR POLAD

CINCEUR

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE LOURENCO MARQUES 0960

CAPE TOWN FOR EMBASSY

BLANTYRE PASS ASST SECY EASUM

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: PINS, PORS, SOCI, MZ

SUBJ: OPERATION ROUND -UP--LOURENCO MARQUES

1. DURING EVENING OF OCTOBER 26 AND EARLY MORNING OF OCTOBER 27, FRELIMO SOLDIERS AND PSP POLICE ARRESTED ESTIMATED MORE THAN 1,000 PEOPLE IN CITY-WIDE ROUND-UP OF "AGITATORS, CRIMINALS, MARGINAL DELINQUENTS, AND BLACK AND WHITE REACTIONARIES."

2. FROM WHAT WE HAVE BEEN ABLE TO ASCERTAIN, PEOPLE ARRESTED CONSISTED PRIMARILY OF BLACKS WITHOUT DOCUMENTATION
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OR ADQUATE EXPLANATION FOR BEING OUT ON STREETS AT NIGHT.

ACCORDING TO NOTICIAS OF OCTOBER 28, SOME OF THOSE DETAINED WERE SUBSEQUENTLY RELEASED.

3. BRITISH CONSUL FREE-GORE SAYS RELIABLE SOURCE INFORMED HIM APPROXIMATELY 200 OF THOSE ARRESTED WERE FLOWN TO DAR ES SALAAM. HE SAID GROUP WAS SELECTED ON BASIS OF PHYSICAL TESTS. THOSE IN AGE RANGE 14-20 WERE TOLD THEY WERE NOW FRELIMO "MILITANTS" AND WOULD BE TRAINED IN TANZANIA; THOSE OVER 20 WOULD BE GIVEN EMPLOYMENT.

4. COMMENT: SINCE IT IS UNLIKELY FRELIMO WOULD WANT TO INDUCT AGITATORS AND CRIMINALS INTO ITS RANKS, IT SEEMS LIKELY OPERATION'S MAIN AIMS WERE TWO-FOLD; FIRST, TO GIVE DRAMATIC DEMONSTRATION TO LOURENCO MARQUES POPULATION THAT GOVERNMENT IS TAKING EFFECTIVE MEASURES TO RE-ESTABLISH LAW AND ORDER. (AFTER OCTOBER 21-22 DISTURBANCES, BOTH WHITES AND BLACKS HAVE EXPRESSED CONSIDERABLE FEAR ABOUT SECURITY SITUATION IN LOURENCO MARQUES AND DOUBTS REGARDING GOVERNMENT'S CAPACITY TO DO ANYTHING ABOUT IT.) SECOND, TO REDUCE UNEMPLOYMENT, DRUNKENNESS AND STREET CRIME IN LOURENCO MARQUES (BOTH DOWNTOWN AND IN THE AFRICAN SUBURBS). DURING PAST WEEKS, WE HAVE HEARD REPORTS OF BLACKS BEING STOPPED BY FRELIMO SOLDIERS AND TOLD THAT, IF THEY COULD NOT PROVE THEY HAD EMPLOYMENT, THEY WOULD BE SENT FORCEFULLY TO WORK IN FIELDS.) CONSUL GENERAL TOLD BY ACTING GOVERNOR OF BEIRA THAT THIS PROBLEM ALSO EXISTED THERE OWING TO INFLUX OF AFRICANS FROM COUNTRYSIDE IN PAST MONTHS. WALKER

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